

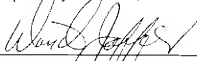
CONCLUSION

Applicants believe the pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

If any further questions should arise prior to a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the attorney at the number set forth below.

Date: June 28, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



David H. Jaffer, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 32,243
Customer No. 27498

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P. O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
Tel: (650) 233-4510
Fax: (703) 770-7301